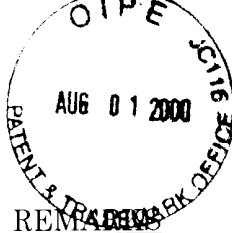


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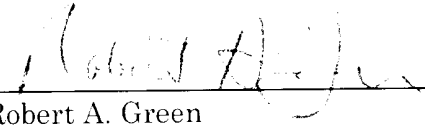


Inasmuch as this amendment merely deletes an equation at page 17, it does not introduce new matter and therefore is appropriate at this time. In light of the foregoing amendments, favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By


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